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May 12th, 1959

COCOM Document No. 3416.31/3

COORDINATING COMMITTEE*J. General*RECORD OF DISCUSSIONONITEM 1631(a) AND (e) - MAGNETIC METALSMay 4th, 1959

Present: Belgium (Luxembourg), Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States.

References: Metals Working Paper No. 1 (1958); COCOM 3416.31/1 and 2.

1. The CHAIRMAN drew the attention of the Committee to the record of statement by the Netherlands Delegate concerning sub-item (a) of Item 1631. He invited Delegates to give the views of their authorities. He also drew the attention of the Committee to the memorandum which had been submitted that day by the French Delegation concerning sub-item (e) of Item 1631.
2. The UNITED KINGDOM Delegate said that his authorities agreed to add the words "and less" to the definition of sub-item (a), but he pointed out that 0.003 inches was equivalent to 0.075 mm. and not 0.0075 mm.
3. There were no objections to the Netherlands proposal from the other Members of the Committee. It was agreed that sub-item (a) of Item 1631 should read as follows:
"(a) Thickness of 1/100 mm. and less;".
4. The UNITED KINGDOM Delegate then commented on the French proposal concerning sub-item (e) and asked why this question had not been raised during the list review in 1958.
5. The FRENCH Delegate stated in reply to his United Kingdom colleague that there was not a great difference in principle between 15,000 gaussses and 13,000 gaussses because a conversion formula could be used. Nevertheless the usual reference was to 15,000 gaussses and to his knowledge only one firm in the United Kingdom had a machine which worked on the basis of 13,000 gaussses. He knew that professional men everywhere wondered why the Committee had chosen a measurement for which no instruments existed. The conversion could not be made by arithmetical means and experience had shown that mistakes could be made, therefore the French authorities thought that it would be preferable for customs officials to use a system which corresponded to existing measuring instruments. The Delegate continued that the core loss in watts per lb. at different frequencies could only be determined by experiment and not by arithmetical means, therefore it was proposed to give the core loss in watts per lb. at 60 cycles per second in addition to the measurement at 50 cycles per second. 50 cycles per second were used nearly everywhere except in the United States and it was thought that conversion problems might have arisen for the United States customs. Finally the Delegate emphasised a point of substance. The substitution of 15,000 gaussses for 13,000 gaussses would have the result of freeing from embargo certain oriented grain sheets which were

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at the moment caught by the embargo cut-off. These sheets had to be sorted, which was an expensive process and they were of no strategic importance. Moreover since the sheets could be used only in the manufacture of transformers and transformers themselves were not under embargo, there was no logical reason why they should not be exported freely.

6. The UNITED KINGDOM Delegate asked for how long the definition had referred to 13,000 gaussses.

7. The CHAIRMAN replied that the first definition with a reference to 13,000 gaussses had come into force on August 16th, 1954.

8. The COMMITTEE agreed to hear the views of Governments on the French proposal on May 25th. It was further agreed that the new definition of sub-item 1631(a) in paragraph 3 above should come into force in 30 days time, i.e. on June 3rd, unless a Member Country raised an objection before that date.

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